



BUCKEYE UNION DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

2024-2025

May 2025

As we approach the end of the 2024-2025 school year, I want to thank teachers, staff, administrators, parents, and students for your efforts, which made this year a great success. Most recently, it has been wonderful to see students proudly sharing their hard work with parents during our Open House events. I especially enjoy watching how excited students become as they guide their parents through their classrooms alongside their teachers. Reflecting on our accomplishments this year reminds me how vital every member of our educational community is to the continued success of the Buckeye Union School District.



David Roth, Ph.D.
Superintendent

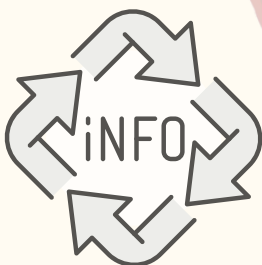


District Mission

Working together with families, the community, and highly-qualified staff, the Buckeye Union School District ensures that each student masters the knowledge and skills needed to maximize their academic and personal success in a global society.

District Vision

It is the Vision of the Buckeye Union School District to provide the highest quality educational program for all students, so that they fulfill their innate potential, become lifelong learners, and contribute to society as responsible citizens.



If you are a community member and would like to join our District-Wide mailing list, subscribe [HERE](#).

If you would like to give us an idea for future Buckeye Union District Highlights, please email us at ksellwood@buckeyeusd.org

**VISIT OUR
WEBSITE**

Academics

This was our first year implementing the new English language arts (ELA) curriculum at the elementary level as well as new digital tools supporting ELA at the middle schools. A testament to the success of our teachers and students in the first year of implementation were the spring ELA diagnostic results which demonstrated, Districtwide, the progress rate of students was already well beyond that expected in a full school year. Similarly, student success on the spring diagnostic for mathematics indicated that students, Districtwide, made more than a year's expected progress.

Recently, the Board approved the adoption of new accelerated and advanced math pathway texts that will support students who are on the fast track in mathematics, in preparing them for continued success in high school.

Soon, the Board will be approving a reading difficulties screener, as mandated by the State of California, that will be used to annually assess every Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade student for reading challenges. Catching struggling readers increases the possibilities for teachers to intervene most effectively.

Finally, we hope you have noticed that students are receiving more opportunities to engage in the arts. Of course, parent-supported activities remain robust and there are increasing numbers of after-school and classroom performances as well as opportunities for the visual arts. We are looking forward to next year as we will continue to expand arts experiences using Proposition 28 funding.

Attendance

As many will recall, one of my first communications this year was on the topic of school attendance. To begin, thank you to everyone for the efforts to raise attendance levels and decrease Chronic Absenteeism. I am pleased to report that our average daily attendance has improved by approximately .5% and I am especially pleased to report that Chronic Absenteeism (i.e. students absent 10% or more) has declined from 10% to just about 5%, Districtwide. Well done!

Facilities

An important project that is well underway is the expansion of the Rolling Hills kitchen. With the State's implementation of the Universal Meals program and the associated increase in the number of students receiving school breakfast and lunch, Rolling Hills was in serious need of more space in which to prepare meals and serve students. Completion of the project is anticipated by the start of the coming school year.

Transportation

Well, it was a challenging start to the school year as the District was understaffed by 3 bus drivers. In this era of labor shortages, such personnel can be incredibly difficult to attract and retain. The great news is that the District was able to train and hire new drivers over the course of the school year and, fingers crossed, we should be in a better position to start the 2025-2026 school year.

Artificial Intelligence

Recent advancements in Artificial Intelligence (AI) are transforming every sector of our economy, with impacts that will only accelerate in the coming years. This reality underscores the critical importance of equipping our students with a strong foundation in AI literacy and practical skills.

In response, our School Board has initiated the development of AI-use policies and the District has launched targeted teacher training. Across our organization, employees are increasingly leveraging AI as a productivity tool, and many teachers are using it to provide more detailed, personalized feedback on student writing. We are actively exploring and identifying the most effective applications of AI for both district operations and student learning outcomes.



***Buckeye Union Teachers learning about
AI in Education***

Another Successful Year

These are just some of the many accomplishments that occurred in the school year. Of course, the growth and development of our students is the most satisfying outcome of every school year and I want to wish our 8th graders who will be moving on to high school the best of success! I hope they find that their time in the Buckeye Union School District has provided them with a strong foundation for pursuing their dreams into the future.

